MINUTES OF FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE APRIL 30, 2003

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman; Per Bang-Jensen, Vice-Chairman; J. David Cubbage;

Laurence Mason; Ann McCarty; Sharon Grove McCamy and Liz Cook.

Members Absent: Sam Poles

Guests Present: Chuck Medvitz

Staff Present: Fran Williams

1. Approval of March 26, 2003 Committee Meeting Minutes.

On motion made by Sharon McCamy and seconded by Larry Weeks it was moved to approve the March 26, 2003 Committee Meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider a Petition to Lower the Speed Limit on Belvoir Road (Route 709) Between Routes 17 and 55 – George M. Fetterer

Mr. Fetterer was not present at the meeting. Larry Weeks stated that he would like to have Sheriff Joe Higgs' written comments concerning Springs Road and Belvoir Road. Mr. Weeks expressed concern about lowering the speed limit because these roads are narrow and motorists may not go the lower speed limit for long distances. Therefore, Mr. Weeks feels that Sheriff Higgs may have some reservations about the wisdom of lowering the speed limits on these roads. *Liz Cook will contact Sheriff Higgs in order to get his comments in writing.*

Dave Cubbage stated that he received a request from Mr. Fetterer asking that the speed limit be reduced to 25 mph for the entire length of this road. However, VDOT could not support this request and has recommended that the speed limit be lowered to 45 mph. Mr. Cubbage stated that under normal practice any citizen can request a speed study without going through the Committee. Liz Cook asked if a speed study could be done on just the portion of Belvoir Road within the Village of Belvoir and the portion from Route 55 to the railroad track. *Dave Cubbage will request this additional study and report back to the Committee*.

Larry Weeks stated that this two part request includes that stretch of Route 709 between Routes 17 and 55 as well as the portion from the railroad tracks to the Stockyard. The portion from the railroad track to Route 17 is wide open country. Mr. Weeks stated that while he does not think it is inappropriate to move ahead and honor their request, he would like to discuss this with Dave Cubbage and Harry Atherton since this would affect two boundaries.

Mr. Weeks stated that it is his opinion that the aim of the second part of this request to limit traffic to local trucks may be impractical and will be decided by the result of the Special Exception application submitted by DuBrook Concrete. Mr. Weeks stated that the two parts of this request should therefore be separated with the Transportation Committee considering the speed limit issue and the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors handling the land use issue regarding truck traffic.

3. Consider a Petition for Improvements to Ashby Avenue – Teresa Findley

Teresa Findley was not present at the meeting. Liz Cook stated that Ashby Avenue is off Route 17 north of Old Stockyard Road on the left before Main Street in Marshall (between Business Route 17 and Warren Street).

Per Bang-Jensen suggested that this item be deferred until the Committee's next meeting so that it can be determined if Ashby Avenue is a public or private street. All members were in agreement.

4. Consider Possible Revisions to the Subdivision Street Requirements Manual.

Dave Cubbage stated that VDOT has forwarded this information to various counties and asked for comments concerning any possible revisions. Liz Cook will meet with Rick Carr in order to review the Subdivision Street Requirements Manual in detail so that comments can be forwarded directly to VDOT's website.

5. Receive Response on Inquiry of Speed Limits on Secondary Roads – Dave Cubbage

Dave Cubbage reviewed a map prepared by his office showing the speed limits on secondary roads within the County.

6. Receive an Update on Traffic Calming Measures for the Edgehill Subdivision.

Liz Cook reviewed traffic calming measures, which were discussed at the Committee's last meeting. Ms. Cook will review VDOT's traffic calming policy and report back to the Committee at its next meeting so that a recommendation can be made to the Board of Supervisors regarding the adoption of this policy.

Matthew Smith asked if there is a deadline for the adoption of this policy. Dave Cubbage stated that there is no deadline.

Sharon McCamy stated that she did not have a chance to talk with Sheriff Higgs about the situation in Edgehill Subdivision.

7. Receive an Update on Access Issues at the Intersection of Routes 610 and 28 in the Midland Service District.

This item was postponed until next month's meeting.

8. Receive an Update on the Condition of Botha Road (Route 661).

Sharon McCamy stated that she has received complaints from a number of individuals who are concerned about mud on Botha Road, blind curves as well as vegetation which needs to be trimmed at the entrance to North Wales Subdivision. Dave Cubbage stated that there have been some previous problems at the Botha worksite with mud and construction debris, but he indicated that his office did not receive any complaints after a recent rain. *Mr. Cubbage will look into the other concerns and report back to the Committee*.

9. Receive an Update on Traffic Safety and Speeding Concerns at Independence Avenue and Route 17.

Liz Cook has drafted a letter to the School Board and will send it out next week.

10. Receive an Update on the Eastern-Bypass Sound Study.

Dave Cubbage distributed a Noise Analysis Report, which indicates that there are no increased noise levels caused by the weigh station or any of the operations associated with it. Mr. Cubbage has provided copies of this report to some citizens near the weigh station, including Jon Whichard who has spoken at previous Committee meetings.

11. Other Items.

Sharon McCamy stated that a Regional Rail Symposium will be held on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 at Lord Fairfax Community College from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM This will be the first of a series of community discussions sponsored by the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission. This event will focus specifically on passenger rail and the benefits and challenges of providing service to our region.

Sharon McCamy stated that tar and chip work has been done in the English Meadows subdivision, but there was excess gravel left. *Dave Cubbage will look into this matter.*

Sharon McCamy stated that she now travels to work in Manassas each morning along Route 28. Ms. McCamy stated that this trip takes approximately 1½ hours because of heavy traffic, especially at Linton Hall Road in Prince William County. Ms. McCamy further stated that vehicles on Route 17 travelling behind school buses have trouble seeing when the traffic light changes and this may have an impact on morning traffic. *Dave Cubbage will check on visibility at the traffic light to see if any safety improvements are warranted.*

Dave Cubbage stated that VDOT has hired Garrett W. Moore as the new Resident Engineer. Mr. Moore should be in attendance at the Committee's next meeting.

Liz Cook stated that residents along Flag Rock Drive in Remington have requested a "Watch For Children" sign. The Committee instructed *Ms. Cook to prepare a Resolution for the Board of Supervisors requesting the "Watch for Children" sign.*

Matthew Smith expressed appreciation to Sharon McCamy and Larry Weeks for the hard work they have done on behalf of the County. Neither will be running for another term on the Board of Supervisors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.